ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

independently supported structures is suppressed by a connecting member for connecting the two structures to form an enclosed space. A connecting member (37) connects a purge chamber which encloses the optical path of exposure light and isolates it from the surroundings and another structure to sustain airtightness in the purge chamber. A section of the connecting member (37), taken in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the connecting member (37), has a tubular form with a three-dimensional portion.